

REMARKS:

Claims 20, 29, 87, and 96 have been amended and claims 28 and 95 canceled herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 20, 23, 24, 29-31, 49, 52-60, 87, 90, 91, 96-98, 125, and 128-136 will be pending in the above-identified application.

Applicants acknowledge the allowance or allowability of claims 24, 28-30, 49, 52-60, 91, 95-97, 125, and 128-136.

Claims 20, 23, 31, 87, 90, and 98

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 20, 23, 31, 87, 90 and 98 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,549,185 (Hatano). Claim 20 has been amended to include subject matter of claim 28, which was identified as being allowable. Accordingly, claim 20 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance. Claim 87 has been amended to include subject matter of claim 95, which was identified as being allowable. Accordingly, claim 87 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

As the application is believed to be in condition for allowance, favorable action and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Although the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is factually correct, Applicants believe the Examiner's statement does not set forth all of the distinctions between the claims and the prior art.

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Respectfully submitted,

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